

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Rey T. Chern, et al.

Serial No.: 09/271,098

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For: LIQUID POLYMERIC COMPOSITIONS FOR
CONTROLLED RELEASE OF BIOACTIVE
SUBSTANCES



Group Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: Shahnam Sharareh

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ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application the undersigned attorney and/or agent of record hereby appoints Mitul I. Desai Registration No. 46,661 c/o MERCK & CO., INC., Patent Dept., RY60-30, P.O. Box 2000, Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907, an associate attorney and/or agent, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

All communications in connection with the prosecution of the above-identified application should be sent to Mitul I. Desai c/o MERCK & CO., INC., Patent Dept., RY60-30, P.O. Box 2000, Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907.

Respectfully submitted,

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE
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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
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Date: March 5, 2003